

## REMARKS

### INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 2, and 9-14 have been amended, and claim 15 has been added. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 and 8-15 are pending and under consideration.

In the Office Action, at page 5, item 8, the Examiner stated that claims 1 and 8 are allowed.

Additionally, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner accept the previously submitted drawings.

### REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112:

In the Office Action, at page 2, item 3, the Examiner rejected claims 9-14 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for the reasons set forth therein. The reasons for the rejection are set forth in the Office Action and therefore not repeated. Applicants traverse this rejection and respectfully request reconsideration.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments of claims 9-14 overcome the Examiner's rejections.

### REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:

In the Office Action, at page 3, item 5, the Examiner rejected claims 9-14 under 35 U.S.C. §102 (a) as being anticipated by Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA). The reasons for the rejection are set forth in the Office Action and therefore not repeated. Applicants traverse this rejection and respectfully request reconsideration.

Amended, independent claim 9 recites: "...the outer race including a cup body having a chamfered portion defined at a peripheral lip region of an open end of the cup body, and a track groove and reduced diameter portion, the method comprising: upsetting a recess in an end portion of an intermediate body, the recess defining a general shape of the chamfered portion; and subsequent to the upsetting, forming the track groove and reduced diameter portion while leaving the general shape of the chamfered portion untreated."

Amended, independent claim 11 recites: "...the outer race including a cup body having a

chamfered portion defined at a peripheral lip region of an open end of the cup body, and a track groove and reduced diameter portion, the method comprising: upsetting a recess in an end portion of an intermediate body, the recess having a peripheral wall that tapers from a mouth to an end surface; and subsequent to the upsetting, forming the track groove and reduced diameter portion in the end surface while leaving the tapered peripheral wall untreated."

And amended, independent claim 13 recites: "...the outer race including a cup body having a chamfered portion defined at a peripheral lip region of an open end of the cup body, and a track groove and reduced diameter portion, the method comprising: upsetting a recess in an end portion of an intermediate body, the recess having a peripheral wall portion tapering from the end portion to a depth of the recess; and subsequent to the upsetting, forming the track groove and reduced diameter portion in the recess while leaving the tapered peripheral wall portion untreated."

In the rejection, the Examiner asserts "...that phrase 'an intermediate member which eventually forms the outer race' in AAPA is equivalent to Applicant's claimed upsetting step in that final design dimension and shape are not yet provided." Applicants respectfully disagree.

In the AAPA, the track groove and reduced diameter portion and the chamfered portion of the cup body are formed in a single operation. (See Specification, at page 2, lines 3-21).

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the AAPA neither discloses nor suggests "...upsetting a recess in an end portion of an intermediate body, the recess defining a general shape of the chamfered portion; and subsequent to the upsetting, forming the track groove and reduced diameter portion while leaving the general shape of the chamfered portion untreated."

Additionally, regarding claims 10, 12, and 14, the Examiner states: "...the punch of the AAPA is straight even though it is a stepped punch.

Each of amended claims 10, 12, and 14 recite: "...wherein the track groove and reduced diameter portion is formed by a straight punch."

Applicants respectfully submit that a stepped punch is not a straight punch. While a stepped punch may have straight portions, a region of a stepped punch that contacts a work piece has radial cross sections that differ.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 9, 11, and 13 patentably distinguish over the cited art, and should be allowable for at least the above-mentioned reasons.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 10, 12, and 14, which depend, respectively, from independent claims 9, 11, and 13, should be allowable for at least the same reasons as

claims 9, 11, and 13, as well as for the additional features recited therein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103:

In the Office Action, at page 4, item 7, the Examiner rejected claims 2-6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 200001576 in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art. Applicant's presume that this was a typographical error, and that the Examiner intended to cite JP 2000061576 (hereinafter Hiroshi). The reasons for the rejection are set forth in the Office Action and therefore not repeated. Applicants traverse this rejection and respectfully request reconsideration.

Amended, independent claim 2 separately delineates an upsetting operation and a cup forming operation. The upsetting operation makes "...an axially inwardly depressed recess defined in an end face of the large diameter portion...said recess having a tapered peripheral wall face, which defines a general shape of each of the chamfered portions..." and the "...cup forming operation performed subsequent to the upsetting operation...", shapes "...the elongated intermediate member to a shape having the cup body by a combined pushing method including a forward pushing and a rearward container pushing...."

The Examiner asserts that Hiroshi discloses the upsetting operation but not the cup forming operation, and that the AAPA states that the cup forming operation is part of Hiroshi. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's interpretation.

Hiroshi discloses a fourth process in which the third intermediate preform, W3, which has no recess formed in the large diameter part h (shown in FIG. 3(c)), is formed into the fourth intermediate preform W4 (shown in FIG. 3d). In this fourth process, both the cup body 1 and the chamfered portions 13 are formed in the same operation by cam fabricating sections P1, P2 and T of punch P. (See paragraphs [0017-0020] of the computer translated versions of Hiroshi, FIGS. 1, 3c, 3d, and 4, and lines 17-23 of the Abstract).

Further, the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 3 of the Specification of the subject application, which describes Hiroshi, recites:

"[according] to the above mentioned publication, an intermediate member which eventually forms the outer race is prepared by means of a combined pushing process including a forward pushing and a rearward container pushing, to thereby form a cup portion and, during this cup forming process, the chamfered portions are plastically formed by the use of a punch used to form the track grooves. Thereafter, during the subsequent drawing process to form the outer race to have a final design dimension and shape, the chamfered portions are also finished." (Emphasis

added)

Thus, in the AAPA, the chamfered portions are formed during the cup forming process.

Applicants respectfully submit that both Hiroshi and the AAPA (which describes Hiroshi) disclose formation of the cup body 1 and the chamfered portions 13 in a single operation (the fourth process). In other words, in contrast to Hiroshi, in which the chamfered portions are formed during cup formation, the subject application discloses and claims formation of the chamfered portions during an upsetting operation, prior to a cup forming operation.

Additionally, Applicants respectfully submit that a non-limiting example of an advantage of using the claimed invention is the ability to use molds having simplified shapes, thus reducing time necessary to manufacture or replace tooling. Another non-limiting example of an advantage of using the claimed invention is that even when tooling is worn down, the simplified shape of the tooling facilitates repair of the tooling, thereby reducing repair time, and increasing overall productivity.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that neither Hiroshi nor the AAPA, either alone or in combination, disclose or suggest formation of the chamfered portions 13 and the cup body 1 in separate operations. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that neither Hiroshi nor the AAPA, either alone or in combination, disclose or suggest, a sequence of operations in which the cup body 1 is formed in an operation subsequent to an operation forming the chamfered portions 13.

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 2 patentably distinguishes over the cited art, and should be allowable for at least the above-mentioned reasons. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 3-6, which ultimately depend from independent claim 2, should be allowable for at least the same reasons as independent claim 2, as well as for the additional features recited therein.

#### NEW CLAIM

Applicants respectfully submit that for at least similar reasons as those stated in the section regarding the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102, new claim 15 patentably distinguishes over the cited art and should be allowable.

#### CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot, and further, that all

pending claims patentably distinguish over the cited art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.


If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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